TRANSLATION PATENT COOPERATION TREATY POT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT-19611			ce	FOR FURTHER A	ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No.				International filing da	ate (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)	
PCT/JP2004/017372			372	24.11.200	4	26.11.2003	
Internati	ional Pa	tent Classification	n (IPC) or natio	 onal classification and	IPC		
F15	B1/0	8					
Applicant NOK CORPORATION							
1.	1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.						
2.	This R	EPORT consists	of a total of _	4	sheets, including	his cover sheet.	
3.	This re	eport is also accor	mpanied by Al	NNEXES, comprising:			
	a. 🔀	(sent to the	applicant and	to the International Bi	ureau) a total of 1	sheets, as follows:	
	u. <u></u>	`				mended and are the basis for this report and/or	
	sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).						
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental						
	Box.						
	b (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))						
	, containing a sequence listing and/or tables						
	related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).						
4.	This re	eport contains ind	lications relation	ng to the following ite	ms:		
	\boxtimes	Box No. I	Basis of the	report			
		Box No. II	Priority				
		Box No. III	Non-establis	shment of opinion with	regard to novelty, inventi	ive step and industrial applicability	
		Box No. IV	Lack of unit	y of invention			
	\boxtimes	Box No. V		atement under Article d explanations support		ty, inventive step or industrial applicability;	
		Box No. VI	Certain docu	uments cited			
		Box No. VII	Certain defe	ects in the international	application		
		Box No. VIII	Certain obse	ervations on the interna	ational application		
Date of submission of the demand				Date of completion of thi	s report		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP					Authorized officer		
Facsimile No.					Telephone No.		

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International application No.
PCT/JP2004/017372

Box	No. I	-	Basis of the report			
1.			I to the language, this report is based on the internation	onal application in the language in which	it was filed, unless otherwise	
		This report is based on translations from the original language into the following which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:				
			international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))			
			publication of the international application (Rule 12.4	I)		
			international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and	/or 55.3)		
2.	rece		d to the elements of the international application, this Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 at :			
		the in	ternational application as originally filed/furnished			
	\boxtimes	the de	escription:			
		pages	s <u>1</u> –6		as originally filed/furnished	
		pages				
		pages	*	received by this Authority on		
	\boxtimes	the cl	aims:			
		nos.			as originally filed/furnished	
		nos.*			_	
						
		nos.*				
		nos.*		received by this Authority on	-	
		the di	rawings:			
		sheet			_	
		sheet	s*	received by this Authority on		
	_	sheet	s* 	received by this Authority on		
	Ш	a seq	uence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplem	nental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.		
3.	\boxtimes	The a	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:			
			the description, pages			
		\boxtimes	the claims, nos. 2			
			the drawings, sheets/figs			
			the sequence listing (specify):			
			any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):			
4.			report has been established as if (some of) the amenda have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as fi			
			the description, pages			
			the claims, nos.			
			the drawings, sheets/figs			
	any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):					
*	If ite	em 4 ap	plies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "sup			

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Box		Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement					
1.	Statement						
	Novelty (N)		1	YES			
		Claims		NO			
	Inventive step (IS)			YES			
		Claims	1	NO			
	Industrial applica	ability (IA) Claims	1	YES			
		Claims		NO			

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: DE 10207248 A1

Document 2: JP 2000-186767 A1

Document 3: JP 2000-170703 A1

Document 4: JP 2003-074503 A1

Using a metal bellows as the bellows for an accumulator, fixing the end cover of an accumulator to a housing by welding, and fixing a metal bellows to the end cover of an accumulator, are known design methods, as set forth in documents 2, 3 and 4, therefore it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to employ the aforementioned known features to the accumulator set forth in fig. 1 of document 1 cited in the international search report.

Moreover, in the accumulator set forth in document 1, the internal space of the lid 17 is filled with a member having a mesh added (not assigned a reference symbol in fig. 1) to eliminate dead space, therefore the accumulator set forth in document 1 "has a spacer attached by inserting into the space formed by a straight line joining both sides of the end of a metal bellows" in the same way as the invention set forth in claim 1 of this application, and has the same configuration wherein

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citations and explanations supporting such statement
"no dead space is formed between the gas end cover and
the spacer".
Document 4 indicates that a spacer is inserted only
in "the space formed by a straight line joining both
sides of the end part of a metal bellows".